

Charting the Course for Maine's Regional Economies



2006 Economic Development Forums

Basic Facts and Background Information

- ❑ Two-thirds [66 2/3%] of the population of Maine lives in 16 percent of Maine's total land area - [includes the 8 southern and coastal counties - Androscoggin Cumberland, Kennebec, Knox, Lincoln, Sagadahoc, Waldo, and York Counties.]
- ❑ Conversely, one-third [33 1/3%] of the population of Maine lives in 84 percent of Maine's total land area [includes the 8 remaining counties.]
- ❑ Maine is almost as large, geographically, as the rest of New England.
- ❑ In New England, there are 244.2 people per square mile to support the region's infrastructure - highways, schools, water & sewerage systems, & telecommunications.
 - In New England, but **excluding** Maine, there are 438.8 people per square mile to support infrastructure.
- ❑ In Maine, there are 41.3 residents per square mile to support the State's infrastructure.
 - **In the eight [8] less populated counties, there are 18.4 residents per square mile compared to 163 residents per square mile in the eight [8] southern and coastal counties where two-thirds of Maine's residents reside.**

Other Interesting Facts

The Milken Institute, in August 2005, ranked Maine with the lowest cost of doing business in New England.

Between 2004 and 2005, Maine recorded the second largest decrease in the cost of doing business, and was surpassed only by West Virginia.

According to "congressional Quarterly State Fact Finder, 2005," Maine ranked 40th lowest with respect to the corporate income tax burden in 2004.

With respect to the unemployment insurance tax, in 2004, the last year for which national rankings are available, Maine ranked 39th lowest in the nation.

According to "Congressional Quarterly State Fact Finder, 2005," Maine ranks 38 lowest with respect to average workers' compensation disability payments.